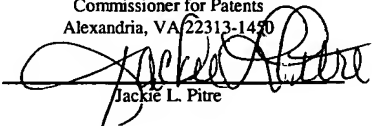


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Application No.: 10/698,010
Confirmation No.: 7409
Filing Date: October 30, 2003
Inventor: Landry et al.
Title: SPINAL STABILIZATION
SYSTEMS AND METHODS
USING MINIMALLY
INVASIVE SURGICAL
PROCEDURES

§ Examiner: Unknown
§ Art Unit: 3738
§ Atty. Dkt. No.: 5259-10704

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|---|
| <p>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8 DATE OF DEPOSIT: <u>3/30/04</u> I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  Jackie L. Pitre</p> |
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.